



DIVISIONS
ENERGY
GAS AND OIL
GEOLOGY AND MINERAL RESOURCES
MINED LAND RECLAMATION
MINERAL MINING
MINES
ADMINISTRATION

COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA

Department of Mines, Minerals and Energy

Washington Building, 8th Floor
1100 Bank Street
Richmond, Virginia 23219-3402
(804) 692-3200 FAX (804) 692-3237
www.dmme.virginia.gov

For Immediate Release
February 16, 2011
Contact: Mike Abbott 276-523-8146
Cell Phone: 276-356-3405

Department of Mines, Minerals and Energy Provides Internet Access to Gas Well Information

- Public can access up-to-date data on well site and escrow account information. –

Lebanon, VA – Natural and coalbed gas royalty owners, gas well operators and other interested parties can now view escrowed gas well and unit information and search for related documents online, the Virginia Gas and Oil Board (Board) and the Department of Mines, Minerals and Energy (DMME) announced today. The new Virginia Gas and Oil Board E-forms Center allows royalty owners to estimate the value of their pooled royalty earnings held in the escrow account based on acres owned and escrow value per acre.

In a presentation before the Board during its monthly hearing on Tuesday, DMME representatives demonstrated how the public can access the E-forms Center via the agency's website. "There clearly has been a need for such an online service," said Board Chairman and DMME Deputy Director Butch Lambert. "Much attention has been focused on the management of the escrow account over the last year and one-half based on concerns raised by citizens over mineral ownership, force pooling and the disbursement of royalty payments from the escrow account."

Over the past two years, DMME information technology and technical mapping groups have worked with the agency's Division of Gas and Oil to develop the E-forms Center. Google Map technology was used to develop a user-friendly, public access database to improve the flow of information to the public, particularly escrowed royalty owners. The database will be updated on a regular basis and DMME plans to further expand user features and utilities.

- M O R E -

Users can look for a well/unit using a Google Map-based search using either a satellite image or roads. Board-approved gas units display company unit name, docket number, and approved unit operator when clicked. Drop down boxes allow the user to search by unit name or Board docket number. Other search features will allow the user to enter key words to look for and read Board documents related to a specific gas unit or wells that exist within the unit.

DMME activated the E-forms Center on Wednesday, February 16, 2011. Users can visit the Center by entering the following address into their web browser:
<http://www.dmme.virginia.gov/dgoboard>. Questions concerning the Center can be emailed to DmmeInfo@dmme.virginia.gov.

#